

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

The application has been amended as follows:

2. Authorization for this Examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Applicant on May 29, 2008, without traverse.

3. In claims 3-5, line 1, after "medium of claim ", delete [2], and insert --- **1** ---.

4. In claim 6, line 3, before "determining" insert --- **step for** ---, and line 4 delete [if the image pixel is determined to be opaque, then], and before "determining" insert --- **step for** ---, and line 5 after "pixel data " insert --- **if the image pixel is determined to be opaque** ---, and after " ; ", insert --- **and** ---, and line 6, delete [and if the image pixel is determined to be transparent, then:], and line 7 before " determining ", insert --- **step for** ---, and after " image pixel data; and", insert --- **for** ---, line 8, after " image pixel data", delete [;], and insert --- **if the image pixel data is determined to be transparent** ---.

5. In claim 8, line 1, after "wherein" insert --- **the step for** ---.

6. In claim 13, line 6, after "comprising" insert --- **:** ---, line 7 after "transparent or opaque," delete [and one or more pixel data fields associated with the first data field, the one or more pixel data fields operable to store first pixel color data when the opaque

data indicates an image is opaque, and operable to store second pixel color data and transparency data when the opaque data indicates that the image is transparent.], and insert --- a red pixel data field associated with the first data field, the red pixel data field operable to store first red pixel data when the opaque data indicates an image is opaque, and operable to store second red pixel data and first transparency data when the opaque data indicates that the image is transparent;

A green pixel data field associated with the first data field, the green pixel data field operable to store first green pixel data when the opaque data indicates an image is opaque, and operable to store second green pixel data and second transparency data when the opaque data indicates that the image is transparent;
and

A blue pixel data field associated with the first data field, the blue pixel data field operable to store first blue pixel data when the opaque data indicates an image is opaque, and operable to store second blue pixel data and third transparency data when the opaque data indicates that the image is transparent, wherein the first , second and third transparency data specify a transparency level of a pixel defined by the second red, green and blue pixel data. ---.

7. Please Cancel claims 22-29.

Reasons for Allowance

8. Applicant's arguments, (pages 8-10), filed on March 25, 2008, with respect to claims 1, and 3-18 have been fully considered and are persuasive. The rejection of claims 1 and 3-18 have been withdrawn. Therefore claims 1 and 3-18 are allowable.

9. The following is an Examiner's statement of reasons for allowance for claims 1 and 13 (renumbered claims 1 and 12).

The prior art of record fails to teach or suggest, a red pixel data field associated with the first data field, the red pixel data field operable to store first red pixel data when the opaque data indicates an image is opaque, and operable to store second red pixel data and first transparency data when the opaque data indicates that the image is transparent; a green pixel data field associated with the first data field, the green pixel data field operable to store first green pixel data when the opaque data indicates an image is opaque, and operable to store second green pixel data and second transparency data when the opaque data indicates that the image is transparent; and a blue pixel data field associated with the first data field, the blue pixel data field operable to store first blue pixel data when the opaque data indicates an image is opaque, and operable to store second blue pixel data and third transparency data when the opaque data indicates that the image is transparent, wherein the first, second and third transparency data specify a transparency level of a pixel defined by the second red, green and blue pixel data.

Claims 6 and 10 (renumbered 5 and 9) are a means or step for performing specific function without the recital of structure, material or acts in support thereof and constructed to cover the corresponding structure, material or acts described in the specification in embodiment of figs. 3 and 4, and equivalents thereof.

10. Claims 1 and 2-18 (now renumbered 1-17 for issue) are allowed.

11. Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Conclusion

13. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Mehdi Rashidian whose telephone number is (571) 272-9763. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon-Thurs 9:00AM to 8:00PM, ET.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Samir Ahmed can be reached on (571) 272-7413. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

Mehdi Rashidian

June 2 2008

/Samir A. Ahmed/

Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 2624